

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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MAR 6 - 1917

INDEXED.

Price List of  
**NURSERY STOCK**  
Years 1917--18



**John Robertson's Nursery**  
Hot Springs, South Dakota

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Department of Agriculture

# State of South Dakota

## OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION.



No. 15.

Brookings, South Dakota, Aug. 12th, 1916.

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that in accordance with an Act of the Legislature approved March 8th, 1909, the nursery of John Robertson of Hot Springs, and owned by John Robertson was inspected on July 18th and 19th, 1916, and the stock grown in said nursery found apparently free from San Jose Scale and all other dangerous insects or plant diseases.

This certificate is to cover only stock grown in the above named nursery, and becomes invalid twelve months after date of inspection.

H. C. SEVERIN,  
State Entomologist.



## Statement to the Public:

I have been growing fruit on dry subsoil land for the past twenty years without irrigation, and now have fourteen acres in bearing orchard.

In offering nursery stock to the public I only offer stock of varieties that have proved successful in my orchard. This is not always what people want. I have many calls for sorts of fruit that are not a success here, and while I could grow and sell them from the nursery at a profit, yet I do not mean to sell anything I would not plant myself.

I grow everything I sell, planting seeds from hardiest varieties in bearing orchard and grafting the seedlings by methods best adapted to success in the northwest.

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### All Stock is True to Name

I know from experience what it is to get a bill of trees labeled as you ordered, plant and care for them until they come into bearing, and then find you have crabs, seedlings, or worthless sorts, so I am most particular that everything is true to name. I never send to another nursery for stock I may be out of, because I could not be sure of its being true to name.

### New Varieties.

I have been, and am still trying all new and wonderful varieties of apples, everbearing strawberries and raspberries, tree gooseberries and currants, but most I have got out of it so far is experience. The best new sorts that I have got in late years have come from our State Experiment Station at Brookings.

### Varieties to Plant.

In the family orchard one should plant a few of most of the sorts I list, but it is a mistake to plant many summer apples, or crabs unless you are situated where you can sell the surplus fruit. Plant more of the late fall and winter sorts. Currants and gooseberries are the easiest fruits to grow, and should be more generally planted. They will be bearing while you are waiting for the apples.

### Planting.

Early spring is the time to plant in the dry northwest. Apple trees should be planted not less than thirty feet apart each way, so as to allow for spread of roots, in search of moisture, as the tree grows larger without competition with roots of other trees or plants. After a tree becomes established, its roots always extend as far in all directions as the tree is high, often reaching much farther. As a rule it is a good method to plow the orchard site deeply, leaving a deep-furrow where each row of trees are to be. Dig wide and deep holes, especially if soil is hard. Use fine moist surface soil to fill around roots, setting tree about same depth it grew in nursery, but leaving a basin of some extent around tree to catch water from rains. This plan is especially good where there is a slope that allows water to run off. Do not allow basin to fill in by cultivation for a few years. When finally leveled up the tree is some deeper than it grew in nursery. All limbs of newly set trees should be cut back about two-thirds of last year's growth.



One row of small fruits may be planted between the tree rows and dug out in, say ten years, when the trees will be large so as to need all the moisture. Some little crop, like potatoes or corn may be grown in the orchard the first two or three years, but never plant anything close enough to trees to use the moisture they can reach with their roots. Never allow weeds to grow at any time; you need the moisture for the trees. These rules are mainly for growing fruits with the natural rainfall on dry subsoil land.

### **Order Early.**

Do not wait until it is time to plant before ordering. This is not because I am in a hurry to get your money, but because all orders are booked as received, and I run short in some plants towards the last. Then too, your order can be put up and sent, just a few days ahead of the rush. There are always plenty who wait till the last. The seasons vary, but as a rule trees and shrubbery set out during the latter part of April do better than those set after May 15th.

### **Parcel Post.**

Those living at a distance from the railroad can get very good service by Parcel Post. The limit of length and circumference of a package, combined, is now 84 inches. By cutting the tops back, as they should be after planting anyway, I can mail pretty fair sized stock. Those ordering this way should make allowances for postage.

### **Terms and Conditions.**

Five of one kind and ten of not over three varieties at ten rates. Fifty of not over five varieties, at one hundred rates. No order booked or shipped until paid for in full. I do not substitute without permission, and all money will be returned for any part of order I cannot fill. I do not replace "free" nor at "half price," but if I have reason to think there has been any mistake or fault at this end of the line, I will make it good, either in the price paid or in other stock. Complaints should be made upon receipt of stock. I will be pleased to use my judgement as to varieties in filling an order for those who will allow me to do so.

**Address all orders to**

**JOHN ROBERTSON,**

**BOX 237**

**HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA.**

### Prices of Apple Trees.

Size	Each	Per 10	Per 100
3 to 4 feet	20 cents	\$1.75	\$15.00
4 to 5 feet	25 cents	2.25	20.00
5 to 6 feet	30 cents	2.75	25.00
6 to 7 feet	35 cents	3.25	30.00

### Summer Varieties.

**YELLOW TRANSPARENT**—The best early summer apple.

**DUCHESS**—Ripens about ten days after Yellow Transparent. A good hardy apple.

### Fall Varieties.

**HIBERNAL**—A large, coarse sour apple, very good for cooking. The hardiest of all apples, especially recommended for trying locations.

**NAMELESS**—A variety that did not prove true to what I ordered, and have not been able to learn correct name yet. A fine large yellow apple, in quality compares to Grimes Golden. Heavy bearer.

**WEALTHY**—While this is not a late keeper, yet it has more good qualities than any other one variety that can be grown in the northwest. More trees of Wealthy should be planted than of any other variety.

### Winter Varieties.

**McINTOSH RED**—An apple of very high quality, better keeper than Wealthy, but not quite as hardy in tree.

**JEWELL'S WINTER**—A very hardy, strong growing tree. Fruit of good size and quality. Withstands wind better than any sort I grow.

**BEN DAVIS**—Not altogether hardy, when young, but will stand more cold than Northwestern Greening. The best keeper, and bears young and regularly.

### Crabs.

**WHITNEY**—Almost an apple in size. The best all round one variety.

**FLORENCE**—Mainly used as a jelly crab. Bears earliest of all, and every year.

### Cherries.

2 to 3 feet, 20 cents each. \$1.75 per 10

3 to 5 feet, 25 cents each. \$2.00 per 10

I have one red and one black sort that I have grown for a number of years. I have no names for them. They seem to be healthier and longer lived than any named sorts I have tried.

## Plums.

2 to 3 feet, 35 cents each.	\$3.00 per 10
3 to 4 feet, 45 cents each.	\$4.00 per 10

The varieties of plums I offer are mainly of Prof. Hansen's new sorts from Brookings. The Hanska, Opata, Sapa and Waneta. The Hanska has good keeping and shipping qualities, and has the Apricot flavor when cooked, blooms very early, and is sometimes caught with frost. The Sapa is a fine plum for home use, but not quite so hardy as Opata, which I consider the surest regular bearer of the lot. The Waneta is the largest, but is not out long enough to be well proven as to hardiness.

## Currants.

1 year old 10 cents each.	75 cents per 10.	\$2.50 per 50
2 year old 15 cents each.	\$1.00 per 10.	\$3.50 per 50

The Wilder and Perfection are two good sized red sorts. The Franco German is a later sort not quite so large in berry, but the bush is the strongest, healthiest grower I know of in the currant class. I've grown the Wilder as a market currant for years. Can only supply the Perfection at single rates, but have a good supply of Wilder and Franco German.

## Gooseberries.

1 year old 15 cents each.	\$1.00 per 10.	\$4.00 per 50
2 year old 20 cents each.	\$1.50 per 10.	\$5.00 per 50

The Downing is a fine large green berry. The Josselyn is a large berry, red when ripe. The Carrie is of medium size, red when ripe, is the strongest growing and heaviest bearer. The kind to plant most of. Have a good supply of these except Josselyn which I can only furnish at single and ten rates.

## Raspberries.

75 cents per 12.	\$2.00 per 50
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I have the Sunbeam, Ohta, St. Regis and Plum Farmer to offer. The Sunbeam and Ohta are red, both fairly hardy without winter cover. The Ohta is the largest berry, but I think Sunbeam of better quality and the kind to plant most of for family use. The St. Regis is an everbearer, freezes back some unless it has winter protection, but bears a full crop on the new canes anyway. The Plum Farmer is black, the kind I grow for market, but should be covered for winter.

## Strawberries.

I grow them and have a good stock of plants in the spring bearing sorts, such as Dunlap, Meteor, Corsican, etc., which



REMARKS:

A View of a Portion of the John Robertson Nursery Near  
Hot Springs, South Dakota.



Photo by Stevens  
Hot Springs, S.D.

The STAR Print, Hot Springs, S. D.